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10/665,501

09/22/2003

Mika Sugimoto

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EXAMINER

BELANI, KISHIN G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2143

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/27/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Interview Summary | Application No. 10/665,501 | Applicant(s) SUGIMOTO ET AL. | |
| | Examiner KISHIN G. BELANI | Art Unit 2143 | |

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) KISHIN G. BELANI. (3) ____.

(2) Chad Billings. (4) ____.

Date of Interview: 20 August 2008.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
 c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
 If Yes, brief description: ____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

Identification of prior art discussed: Yamaura et al. and Bansal et al..

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| /K. G. B./ Examiner, Art Unit 2143 | /Tonia LM Dollinger/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2143 |
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Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The applicants' representative presented arguments about two elements of claim 1. The first argument was about "a winning notification attached to the e-mail sent from said first mobile terminal prior to being reviewed by said second mobile terminal" as claimed in the amended claim 1 as being the only one such notification mailed to one of the lottery eligible participants, versus every eligible participant receiving a possible winning notification in the cited reference of Yamaura et al., one of which will be a winning notification. The second argument was the difference between "the number of received e-mails and total amount of received data by said first and second mobile terminals" versus the number of long distance calls made and the total call time between a caller and a callee that determine a lottery winner in the cited reference of Bansal et al.. No agreement was reached as to the allowability of the amended claims in their present form. However, the applicants' representative showed willingness to further amend the claims if that would overcome the cited art of Yamaura and Bansal. The examiner agreed to consult with other primary examiners and the supervisory examiner and propose modifications to claims language that may make them allowable. However, in such a case, a new search and consideration would be required. Listed below is the interview agenda received from the applicants' representative for application 10/665,501.

Interview Agenda for Application No. 10/665,501

Examiner Belani:

I think there is a huge gap between what you and I perceive as the claimed invention and the teachings of the references. What I would like to discuss at least the following key elements to ensure that you fully understand my position and I fully understand yours. I may want to discuss other issues upon further evaluation of the rejections and Applicants claims. Hopefully this discussion will lead to a resolution on these issues.

1) Lottery number taught by Yamaura and Applicants claimed winning notification: Briefly a lottery number is not a notification of winning anything. By itself a lottery number is just a numerical number that determines whether you have won or lost, but the user does not know this just by looking at the number. The user upon receipt of the lottery number must go to a separate web page to see if they have won. It is the message they receive at the separate web page that provides the winning notification only if they have won, not the lottery number itself. If the lottery number doesn't result in a win, then the user receives a losing notification.

2) Total amount of call time used taught by Bansal and Applicants claimed total data: Applicants claims refer to determining the number of emails and total amount of data received. Bansal on the contrary teaches measuring total call time. While it is true that communications may be transmitted in digital format, Bansal doesn't measure the data amounts, only the call time. As you know call time and data are not a one to one correlation. For example, if ten different people make a one minute phone call, it is likely that the ten phone calls will have ten different data amounts due to the variation in talking amounts, speeds, etc. Thus, determining the total call time does not equate to determining the data amounts.